

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants:	Kazunori Taniguchi, et al.	Examiner:	Vy Q. Bui
Serial No:	10/784,634	Art Unit:	3773
Filed:	February 23, 2004	Docket:	17469
For:	SURGICAL INSTRUMENT	Dated:	August 5, 2008
Conf. No.:	2589		

Commissioner for Patents
P. O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R §1.111

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated April 8, 2008, Applicants respectfully request that the following amendments be entered into the above-captioned application.

Applicants request a one-month extension of time along with the response.

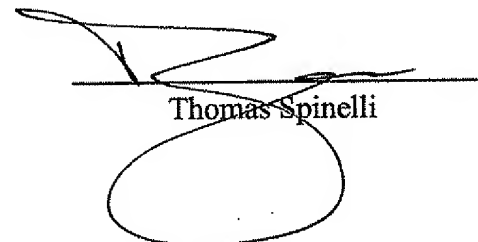
Amendments to the claims begin on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 6 of this paper.

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Dated: August 5, 2008


Thomas Spinelli